



COUNCIL DISTRICT

FRYE LIGHTS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

VOLUME VIII ISSUE IX



Serving

Bay Ho

Bay Park

Birdland

De Anza

Clairemont

Kearny Mesa

Linda Vista

Mission Valley

Mission Bay Park

Mission Village

Morena

Serra Mesa

Police seek leads in Clairemont murder

Teenager shot in Lindbergh Park; SUV seen nearby

San Diego Police are asking Clairemont residents for help in solving the middle-of-the-night slaying of a teenager in late August at Lindbergh Park, 4141 Ashford St.

Joanna Vargas, a 15-year-old Madison High student, had sneaked out of her house and was talking with friends in the park when she was struck and killed by a single gunshot around 1:15 a.m. Friday, Aug. 27.



A white SUV like this was seen near the shooting scene.

Her friends saw a white late-model SUV slowly drive away from the area where the shot was fired. Now San Diego police are seeking help from anyone else who might have seen that vehicle – possibly a Toyota Sequoia – or anything else unusual in the vicinity that night.

“We have passed out fliers requesting help from neighbors in a six-block radius of Lindbergh Park,” said Boyd Long, assistant police chief. “We’re asking anyone who might have any information about such a vehicle, or about the shooting, to come forward.”

The incident does not appear have been tied to drugs, drinking or gang violence, Long said. Anyone who could provide any possible leads is asked to call the police Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or San Diego County Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

A \$1,000 reward is offered for information in the case. For details visit the Crime Stoppers Web site, www.sdcrimestoppers.com.



Joanna Vargas



Lindbergh Park,
4141 Ashford St.

*Hey Donna,
like my dots?*

Young artists like the one pictured here with Donna had lots of fun stuff to do at Serra Mesa Family Day.

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Community Council provides forum in Mission Valley

Group founded in 1992 to counter pro-development planning board

Residents who care about community issues and want to be informed about what's happening in Mission Valley have an open forum in the Mission Valley Community Council.

"Our objective is the exchange of information, the provision of information," said Council Chairwoman Lynn Mulholland, who has been with the group since its founding in 1992. "We talk about decisions by the City Council or elected officials that would affect Mission Valley."

The group meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months at the Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (Its board meets on even-numbered months.) The Council meetings include updates from police, firefighters and local staffers for city, county, state and federal elected officials.

The agenda usually has a main topic with at least one guest speaker. July's gathering was a candidate forum for the City Council District Six election race (although one of the two contenders was a no-show).

"The meeting we're having next month (September) concerns water purification," or treatment of wastewater for irrigation or drinking, Mulholland said. "The Public Utilities Department is going to review ideas on water purification and what it means."

Before the Mission Valley Library opened in 2002, the group convened in condo complex meeting rooms. It was launched as an alternative to Mission Valley's planning advisory board, which was vigorously pro-development, said Mulholland, a retired pharmacist who has lived in Mission Valley since 1975.

"The density was becoming greater and greater," she said. "There was no avenue for those who were opposed to it."

Not all Community Council members oppose growth, but most want more parks, open space and infrastructure improvements. "We don't encourage dissent but we certainly accept it," Mulholland said.

Over the years the group has argued against large commercial and residential projects, winning some battles and losing others. It conducted surveys of residents of Mission Valley and nearby communities regarding land-use and development.

The Council also provides a forum for environmental, transportation and quality-of-life issues. Some guest speakers address more diverse topics, like the expert on tea who provided taste samples of the world's many different varieties.

At its peak the group had nearly 300 members but far fewer are active now, Mulholland said. Depending on the agenda, a meeting might draw dozens or fewer than 10.

Mulholland believes more Mission Valley residents would get involved with the Community Council if more knew about it. "Participants get a better chance for their ideas for Mission Valley to become a reality," she said.

For more information, e-mail missionvalleycommunitycouncil@hotmail.com or call Mulholland at (760) 610-5010.

Eco-friendly Albertsons opens in Clairemont



Donna and Albertsons executives helped Manager Rick Ritter, center, christen the Clairemont store.

On Sept. 1, Councilmember Frye helped cut the ribbon at the new Albertsons at Balboa and Mount Abernathy avenues.

The grocer joins other Clairemont chains, including Vons, Ralphs and Target, in providing area residents with a wide selection of food and competitive pricing, all within a block of Balboa and Genesee avenues, Clairemont's busiest intersection.

Albertsons is also striving to be a good neighbor. It has donated more than 3 million pounds of food to charities over the last two years. Its partnership with the Fresh Rescue Program has saved an estimated \$75,000 in waste disposal. And Special Delivery Albertsons has provided home-delivered meals for 130 critically ill clients and has assisted another 1,000 low-income families with its community pantry.

Clairemont's new Albertsons is also a model of green building. It

has dozens of skylights for natural sunlight, an ultra-clean fuel cell providing electricity and lots of other energy-saving devices throughout the store. More than 70 percent of the building's construction waste was recycled or donated, and customers are encouraged to participate in the company's ongoing recycling program.

Welcome to the neighborhood, Albertsons!



Family fun day in Serra Mesa

Hundreds came out to the Serra Mesa Recreation Center on a sun-splashed Saturday for amusement rides, musical performances, great food and lots of neighborly interaction Sept. 11 at the annual Serra Mesa Family Day.

Dozens of booths offered jewelry, arts and crafts, as well as information from service agencies, political candidates and local elected officials, including Councilmember Frye.

In recognition of 9/11, Frye took part in a ceremony honoring military forces and emergency first-responders making a difference in the community. At her booth, District Six staffers answered questions from residents on a wide range of topics.

As usual, there was plenty of fun for all, big and small.



Serra Mesa Town Council President Carl Demas and Donna were all smiles.



This aspiring young artist was apron-ready to see what she could do with the paint brushes and other crafts in the kids' art booth.



Frye presented a commendation to Marine Chief Warrant Officer Kyle Kennedy, thanking him for his service to San Diego and the nation.



San Diego Police Community Relations Officer Ed Zwibel, second from right, inspected a ride with three members of the department's Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol.



Board gives MV projects architectural renderings

They don't get much attention or accolades, but a small group of volunteer professionals has a key role in improving the appearance, functionality and sustainability of buildings in Mission Valley.

The Mission Valley Planning Group's Design Advisory Board is tasked with reviewing and making recommendations on construction projects that will come before the local Planning Group, San Diego Planning Commission or City Council.

Five of board's seven members also are on the Planning Group, including two who are architects by profession. Two other architects donate their time to serve on the board.

"We take a look at (a project's) color, design and materials and share that expertise," said architect and board Chairman Randy Dolph. "It's important, I think, because obviously people have an interest in what is taking place in the community. They want to make sure it blends in well or fits in well with the context of the surrounding area."

The design board meets at the Mission Valley Library at 3:30 p.m. on Mondays preceding the Planning Group's first-Wednesday-of-the-month meeting, although some months the board doesn't convene if there are no projects to consider.

The board is subject to California's open-meetings laws. Its agenda is e-mailed in advance to the library for posting and includes time for public comment. But usually the only ones in the room are the board members and project applicants.

Two large projects in recent years have drawn considerable community interest and participation: The 4,780-unit Quarry Falls (now renamed "Civita") retail/housing development, and the revamping of Hazard Center. Both projects were repeatedly reviewed by board architects offering advice on how those building plans could be improved.

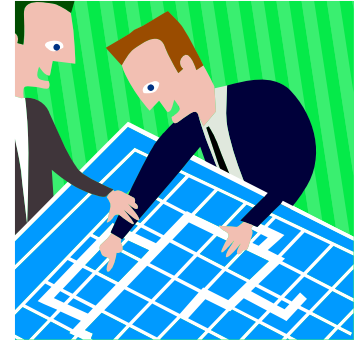
For example, at Hazard Center, the developers revised their parking structure and condo tower designs to make them softer on the eye, farther back from the street and more pedestrian-friendly, said Dolph, who has been on the board more than six years.

"I don't think there were ever any (developer plans) that we said no to and they tried to push them through," he said. "They'd come back again and make the appropriate corrections or updates."

Although most projects in Mission Valley are reviewed by Development Services officials for zoning and building-code compliance, "there's really no one at the City level that oversees things from an architectural standpoint," Dolph said. "They don't always get into the aesthetics, the context and how well it blends in."

In that respect, he says, the Design Advisory Board serves as a "bridge," benefitting builders and the community.

"The applicants who have come before us, most of them have been respectable, hear what we say and have generally improved and refined their designs," Dolph said. "That means we're making a difference."



Pilots for mercy missions thanked by City Council

Angel Flight West was honored this month by Councilmember Frye and her Council colleagues. Founded in 1983, the nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization arranges free non-emergency air transportation for patients, organs and medical supplies. The more than 1,400 pilots donate their time, planes, fuel and operating expense. They fly thousands of missions annually — more than 40,000 since the group began. At left, pilots Rock Swanson and Georgia Griffith, representing the group's 75 pilots in San Diego, received the Council commendation extolling their work and proclaiming Sept. 14, 2010, "Angel Flight West Day" in the City.

Log on to learn about SD River Park draft master plan and impacts

The draft San Diego River Park Master Plan is now available online at

<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/parkplanning/sdriverplan.shtml>. The posting includes draft amendments to the Mission Valley Community Plan and Planned District Ordinance as well as PowerPoint presentations by City planners.



Marine jets taking to skies again for Qualcomm pre-game shows



Attention Mission Valley and Serra Mesa residents: Fighter jets are likely to be rattling your china again this football season. Officials at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar say pre-game flyovers are likely for some or many Chargers and SDSU Aztecs home games.

For information or to voice a complaint, residents can call the base's Operations Duty Office anytime at (858) 577-4277 or 4279. Complaints also can be submitted online at

http://www.miramar.usmc.mil/NoiseComplaints/noise_complaints.asp



Charity walk scheduled Oct. 2 to benefit Children's Hospital

Registration is under way for the fourth annual SeaWorld Shamu & You Family Walk for Rady Children's Hospital.

The Oct. 2 walk offers a great opportunity to help support the life-saving efforts at Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego while enjoying a fun morning with family and friends.

Participants can register individually, organize a team or join one, with a choice of two walks: a one-mile stroll from Rose Marie Starns South Shores Park through SeaWorld, or a longer scenic route around Mission Bay.

Participants get a T-shirt, free admission to a post-walk celebration and a discount for SeaWorld admission. To register or get more information, visit www.shamuandyouwalk.kintera.org.

--Contributed by Corrine Brindley
SeaWorld San Diego

Council hails anniversary of voting-rights amendment



Cosponsored by Councilmembers Frye, Sherri Lightner and Marti Emerald (not pictured), the City Council issued a proclamation Sept. 7 recognizing the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave women the right to vote. The amendment, celebrated by supporters above, was ratified Aug. 26, 1920.



Urban Corps ECO-Center trains youth for green jobs

Donna accepted an invitation Sept. 15 to tour the Urban Corps' newly completed Recycling Education & Community Outreach (ECO) Center in Point Loma, the first of its kind in California. The 5,800-square-foot facility focuses on education and job training in sustainable technologies for teens and young adults served by the Urban Corps. CEO Sam Duran, pictured at right with Donna on the center's rooftop garden, said the aim is to teach young people green technology job skills while raising youth and public awareness of how recycling, conservation and sustainability preserves resources, reduces pollution and keeps waste out of landfills.



Hot tent for yoga



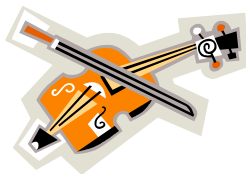
The Town and Country Hotel in Mission Valley erected a temporary 16,000-square-foot, heated tent structure in its back parking lot for a nine-week yoga training program. The Bikram Yoga practice founded by Bikram Choudhury requires a controlled environment of 110 degrees. Some 400 would-be instructors in the practice were scheduled to be trained by Choudhury in an intensive program running Sept. 19 through Nov. 20.

Learning, reaching & fun at the Clairemont Library

2920 Burgener Blvd., (858) 581-9935

Employment workshops

Job searching, resumes/cover letters, Internet resources, career options
2 p.m. Tues., Sept. 28; 6:30 p.m. Wed., Sept. 29; 4 p.m. Tues., Oct. 12



Free concert

DiMarea String Quartet
6:30 p.m. Wed., Sept. 22

Grades 1-3 Parent/Child Book Club

When Marian Sang: *The True Recital of Mazrian Anderson*, by Pam Munoz Ryan
6:45 p.m. Wed., Oct. 13



Adult Book Club

The Master and Margarita, by Mikhail Bulgakov
6 p.m. Wed., Oct. 6

(meets at Same Old Grind Coffee and Tea Shop, Clairemont Village Shopping Center)



Important Phone Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	858-495-7856
Animal Regulation	619-236-4250
Beach & Bay Advisory	619-338-2073
Birth and Death Records	619-237-0502
Brush/Weed Abatement	619-533-4444
Building Permits	619-446-5000
Buses/MTS Access	619-233-3004
Canyon Watchers Program	858-292-6484
City Council Docket Info	619-533-4000
City Directory	619-236-5555
Code Violations	619-236-5500
Crime Stoppers	888-580-8477
Curb Maintenance	619-527-7500
Dead Animal Removal	858-694-7000
Dog Licenses	619-767-2675
Fire Stations	619-533-4300
Graffiti	619-525-8522
Hazardous Materials Hotline	858-694-7000
Housing Commission	619-231-9400
Humane Society	619-299-7012
Libraries	
Balboa	858-573-1390
Clairemont	858-581-9935
Linda Vista	858-573-1399
Mission Valley	858-573-5000
North Clairemont	858-581-9931
Serra Mesa	858-573-1396
Noise Regulation	619-236-5500
Office of Small Business	619-685-1390
Park and Recreation	619-525-8219
Parking Citations	619-236-7145
Parking Enforcement	858-495-4747
Police: Non-Emergency	619-531-2000
Pot Hole Hotline	619-527-7500
Recreation Centers	
Kearny Mesa	858-573-1387
Linda Vista	858-573-1392
North Clairemont	858-581-9926
Serra Mesa	858-573-1408
South Clairemont	858-581-9924
Tecolote	858-581-9933
Recycling Hotline	858-694-7000
Senior Citizens Services	619-236-6905
Serra Mesa Community Connection	858-565-2473
Sewer Repair/Spills	619-515-3525
Sidewalk Maintenance	619-527-7500
Social Services Information	211
Stormwater Pollution Hotline	619-235-1000
Street Lights	619-527-7500
Street Sweeping	619-527-7500
Traffic Control	619-533-3126
Tree Maintenance	619-527-7500
Waste Reduction & Disposal	858-492-5010
Water Emergency	619-515-3525
Water Utilities	619-515-3500
Zoning Regulation Information	619-236-5555

District Six Community Meetings

Clairemont Town Council, <http://www.clairemontonline.com>

Place: Clairemont High School Cafeteria
4150 Ute Drive
When: 1st Thursday/Month
Time: 7 p.m.

Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee

Place: LiveWell San Diego (formerly Clairemont Senior Friendship Center)
4425 Bannock Ave.
When: 3rd Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Kearny Mesa Planning Group

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive
When: 3rd Wednesday/Month
Time: Noon

Linda Vista Town Council

Place: Baha'i Center
6545 Alcala Knolls Drive
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Linda Vista Planning Group

Place: Linda Recreation Center
7064 Levant Street
When: 4th Monday/Month
Time: 5:30 p.m.

Mission Bay Park Committee

Place: Rotating Venue
When: 1st Tuesday/Month
Time: 6 p.m.

Mission Valley Community Council

Place: Mission Valley Library
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 3rd Tuesday/Odd Months
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Mission Valley Planning Group

Place: Mission Valley Library
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 1st Wednesday/Month
Time: Noon

Serra Mesa Community Council, www.serramesa.org

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Serra Mesa Planning Group

Place: Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive
When: 3rd Thursday/Month
Time: 7 p.m.



Councilmember Donna Frye
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FRYE LIGHTS: CELEBRATING THE DISTRICT SIX SPIRIT



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Register to receive updates & event information from Councilmember Frye
by signing up in the "Frye Lights" box at www.sandiego.gov/cd6!